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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1943 No. 41

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Russia's Incredible Sacrifices

Two years ago, by an act of treachery in keeping with the long record of Nazi duplicity, the Nazi leaders launched their brutal attack upon the Soviet Union. These Nazi leaders had underestimated the extent to which the Soviet Government and people had developed, and strengthened their military powers to defend their country, and had utterly failed to realise the determination and valour of the Soviet people

During the past two years, **freedom-loving peoples of the world have watched with increasing admiration, the history-making exploits of the armed forces of the Soviet Union, and the almost incredible sacrifices which the Russian people are so heroically making**

The growing might of the combined Forces of all the United Nations which is being brought increasingly to bear upon our common enemy, testifies to the spirit of unity and sacrifice necessary for our ultimate victory. This same spirit will, I am sure, animate us in the approaching challenging tasks of peace which victory will present to the world

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a message to Marshal Stalin

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INDIA, A VITAL SUPPLY BASE

"It is obvious that India's progress must depend on the successful prosecution of the war and that complete fulfilment of her aspirations requires the removal of the Japanese menace. India is a vital supply base for the strategy of the United Nations in the East, and the more fully and rapidly India can develop and extend the great war effort she is already making, the sooner will the shadow of war pass from her and the earlier can she achieve her aim of full self-government."

—FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL, *Viceroy-designate of India, in a speech in London, on June 22.*

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TRIBUTE TO INDIA'S FIGHTING MEN

"I shall soon be sending a message to all ranks of the defence forces on laying down the office of the Commander-in-Chief. I should like to take this opportunity of again paying a tribute to the valour and loyalty of the Indian forces in this war. It is to the troops from India that I am largely indebted for such military successes as I have been able to win, and I shall always have a very warm spot in my heart for India's fighting men."

—FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL, *Viceroy-designate of India, in a speech in London, on June 22.*

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Wednesday Night is Forces Night

Ten O'clock tune-time brings you thirty minutes of

MUSIC, MELODY AND SONG

DID YOU LISTEN IN ON WEDNESDAY?

You must have heard—and enjoyed—"**PASSING OF THE REGIMENT**" by the Madras Guards

How did you like the lovely Irish ballad—and "**MOONBEAMS DOWN**"?

Of course, you liked Gilbert and Sullivan?

Well, tune-in next Wednesday

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

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RUNNING COMMENTARY

Allied Air Offensive in the Mediterranean— Three Islands captured in Three Days.

Royal Air Force bombers from North Africa have attacked this week important targets in Italy and Sicily. The docks and port installations at Syracuse in south-east Sicily were bombed. American Fighting Fortresses have attacked Messina, the northern tip of Sicily. Other American heavy bombers made daylight attacks on the Italian terminus of the ferry service linking Sicily with the mainland. They scored hits on the harbour and near the railway station and sidings. Aircraft based on Malta have raided targets in Western Sicily, and attacked shipping off the coast. Excellent results were obtained. Allied operations here show that a concentration of air power is creeping northwards across the Mediterranean. The capture of Pantellaria, Lampedusa and Linosa islands has completely changed the strategic situation in the Central Mediterranean. These islands form a triangle, as it were, controlling the Sicilian Sea. These three island bases of the Axis were surrendered to the Allies on three successive days. The result of it all is that Axis air power has been pushed back to Sicily.

Referring to Pantellaria, Rome radio said six months ago, "The obstacles of Pantellaria and of the Sicilian coast *cannot* be overcome." But the boast turned out to be an empty one. The strategic importance of the capture of Pantellaria was well pointed out by the Ankara radio on June 12 in a single statement. "Pantellaria," it said, "is not like an overseas possession, it is part and parcel of the mainland." It may be pointed out that it is only 50 miles from the eastern tip of the Cape Bon Peninsula (Tunisia), 65 miles from the coast of Sicily and 150 miles from Malta. Another island, Lampedusa, is 90 miles from the east Tunisian coast, 110 miles from Malta, and within 100 miles of Pantellaria itself. It was with the help of these island bases and air and sea command of the central narrow seas that the Luftwaffe attempted to make Sicily a powerful air fortress last winter. But the occupation of these islands has frustrated Axis plans and dealt a heavy blow to the Axis air power in this region.

His Majesty the King's Visit to Malta— Tribute to its Great Resistance.

The early surrender of Pantellaria stands in marked contrast to the stubborn resistance of Malta. "Malta must be knocked out," said a German commentator from the Paris radio on October 18 last year, "It is preventing the German and Italian domination of the Mediterranean." In spite of the most powerful mobilisation of the Axis air forces against Malta, it has continued not only to resist the enemy, but also to strike back. It used to be said that Malta had bombs for breakfast, bombs for lunch, bombs for tea, and bombs for dinner. But its stubborn and implacable resistance beat the Axis. Malta still stands but Pantellaria collapsed in three weeks of concentrated attack, and surrendered exactly three years after the first Italian bomb was dropped on Malta.

* * * *

Now His Majesty the King has bestowed a unique honour on the George Cross Island by a special personal visit to it. This has coincided with Malta's celebrations on Sunday (June 20) of the fall of Pantellaria and other Italian islands. In a message to the King on His Majesty's departure, Viscount Gort said :—

"Malta still stands in the van of the forces of the United Nations in the Central Mediterranean."

In his reply, His Majesty has paid a tribute to Malta which has withstood "the fiercest blows that the cruel enemy could inflict upon her," and sent to the people of Malta his best wishes "for the happier times that surely lie ahead."

* * * *

The position now is that the Central Mediterranean areas which provided air cover for Axis shipping between Sicily and North Africa and added greatly to the striking power of the Axis air forces against the Allies both on land and sea, are all now well within the range of Allied fighter aircraft. Before the capture of Pantellaria, Allied fighter aircraft from North African bases could operate some 35 miles north of Palermo (Sicily). Now after the capture of the island base, Allied fighters can operate still further afield in the Tyrrhenian Sea. Sicily stands now in the unenviable position of being the target of concentrated air attacks from many sides —from Tunisia, Pantellaria, Lampedusa and Malta.

In Southern Tunisia, where Rommel launched a strong attack against our positions on March 5, a battery of an anti-tank regiment destroyed five of the new type MK. 3's which the enemy was using.

GERMANY BECOMES INVASION-CONSCIOUS

THE German Overseas Radio described on Monday the state of "high nervous tension" in Germany, which was the result of the Allied air-raids. The announcer said, "Most people have a suit-case packed ready for emergencies. Great hardships and hard problems to everyone are caused by the increasing Anglo-American raids on Germany." In other words, Germany has become thoroughly invasion-conscious. There is a "war of nerves" in the press. The German uncertainty on the Russian Front and the mystery of Allied plans and preparations in the Mediterranean have heightened the tension.

WITH a view to allay the fears of the German public, Berlin spokesmen have been, for some weeks, harping on the strong defences of Europe. This is a revival of the old reassurance argument used before. It may be recalled that during the Second Front scare in Europe last year, Dr. Goebbels' propaganda agencies laid stress on the impregnability of coastal defences in Western Europe and portrayed commando raids on St. Nazaire, Boulogne and Dieppe as attempted invasions which were frustrated by the strength of the fortifications along the northern and west coast of France. After the "invasion season" ended, this line of propaganda was given up.

The Maginot Mind

IT was again revived two months ago. The Radio Zeesen said on April 13, "Let the enemy come, he will find a new Dieppe, he will get a terrible beating. We have fortified the coast of Europe from North Cape to the Mediterranean and supplied it with the twentieth century's deadliest weapons . . . The result is that even the hardest and bitterest enemy attack is doomed to failure." In another broadcast, Zeesen said, "All the extensive fortifications erected here, during the last few years, form part of a complete defensive fortification based on the experiences of the Western Wall and the Maginot Line, as well as those of the campaign in the east, while gun-turrets of the Maginot Line operated only through 180 degrees, the present turrets cover 360 degrees . . . To give you some idea of the Atlantic Wall, the steel would be one uninterrupted bar from the earth to the moon and back, while the concrete would suffice to build a road from Berlin to the Solomons." "Two hundred kilometers longer than the Great Wall of China"; "much more strongly fortified than the Maginot Line"—such and similar was the bombastic language used by the Germans in reassuring their people about the strength of their defences.

Tunisia and after

AFTER their Tunisian defeat, they pitched their bravado in a still higher key. They said, "Now we are really safe. During the six months of the Tunisian campaign, the defences of the whole of Europe, including the coast of Italy, have been brought to such a pitch that to-day there can no longer be any talk of invasion anywhere. The nations of Europe know that they are secure behind this wall of steel, iron, concrete and firepower." Referring to the defences of France, a pro-Nazi writer says, "Their strength is greater than that of the pyramids. The heaviest pounding will not even be noticed by the people who will sit inside these fortifications."

Change of Propaganda Perspective

NOW the line of propaganda has been changed. The German propagandists feel that harping on the impregnable defences of Europe has gone too far and is having undesirable effects. They now admit that the Mediterranean defences are mostly mobile and should not be compared with the Atlantic coast defences; they say, "Europe has no south wall." The European 'fortress' idea with its implications of passive defence seems to be now given up. General Dietmar, the German military commentator, has refuted the suggestion that Germany is giving a new lease of life to the defunct idea of the Maginot Line. He says apologetically, "We did not reject the Maginot Line as such, but the spirit from which it had sprung."

THE German people have become soaked in the conception of a European 'fortress' with strong outlying bastions of defence. Their defensive psychology can well be illustrated by a quotation from a leading article in a German paper. "Europe has become a concrete fortress," says the journal, "an invasion would not require thousands, but millions of tons of shipping which they have not got. The near future will show where the road has led us. We face the future with superior calm. The scales are still very heavily

weighted in our favour." But there seems to be a widespread feeling of " dull uneasiness " at the prospects of Allied invasion. Continuous references are made to the intentions of Turkey and a number of reasons are given why Turkey is not likely to enter the war against Germany.

Two-fold Purpose

IT would thus be seen that the general policy of German broadcasts during the past few weeks seems to be based on a two-fold purpose. It wants to stimulate the Germans against fears of invasion on the one side, and deter the Allies from launching a Second Front in Europe on the other. The German home front is sought to be strengthened by periodic announcements of German armaments production figures, Europe's impregnable defences, Axis man-power superiority, the U-boats' inevitable successes, and so on. But the Allied air bombardment of military objectives in Germany and occupied Europe is likely to have an unwholesome effect. Therefore, Goebbels has come out with a new theory which knocks the bottom out of his previous propaganda about R.A.F. raids. He says, " The object of the British air raids is *undoubtedly* the dislocation of the German war-machine, apart from the intention to terrorise civilians. But Germany's war potential can never be crippled. It has always been the policy of the German armaments industry not to concentrate the production of munitions in a few gigantic plants, but to decentralise it to such an extent that should one factory be *damaged* or *destroyed*, this loss of production is immediately made up for by another factory elsewhere." What he wants to impress on the German public is that if the German strength is intact, the chances of an Allied invasion are fairly remote.

Conjuring up Visions of Loss

HE also wants to frighten the Allies by a picture of the losses that would be incurred by their launching an invasion on Europe. He has taken special pains to calculate the losses. He says, " Each batch of invasion troops will have to reckon with a loss of at least two-thirds of its total number. If 1,500,000 men were to be employed, it might well be expected that 1,000,000 of them would be lost before any decisive battle was fought on the mainland." But all these tactics are not going to be of much avail. Tunisia has upset all Axis plans. The German High Command banked on holding Tunis at least until August. They thought that if they had a quiet summer they could comb out factories, shops and offices and get a large number of recruits to be trained for the front and that Germany would then be in a stronger position to meet the Russian offensive and the Allied invasion next spring. But this did not go according to plan.

The Trojan Horse in Germany

ANOTHER important fact that has to be borne in mind is that the Germans have 5 million potential enemies within their gates, for there has been an enormous influx of conscripted foreign labour into Germany, which is likely to act in the same way as the wooden horse filled with men, which the Greeks introduced into the beleagured Troy. The Germans are taking elaborate precautions to keep down discontent or trouble from these foreign workers. A Swedish traveller has written an article in the Swedish journal *Arbetet* on the first of this month, in which he refers to the large number of foreigners who are to be seen in Berlin even mor than in Leipzig and Dresden. He says, " One feels as if one were visiting the tower of Babel ; prisoners of war are to be seen everywhere, mostly Frenchmen in uniform or workers doing forced labour with the Polish 'P' or the Ukranian 'O.S.T.' on their chests." He then refers to the rapid growth of sabotage and says, " From the German point of view, it is considered far more dangerous that there are many political germ-carriers among the 5 million foreigners in Germany."

German Morale

ALL these are factors which will play their own part when the time comes, but so far as German morale is concerned, it must be stated that it is still firm. There are persons, however, who feel that the mood of atalism which suddenly swept over the German army in Tunisia, might overtake the German people when they are in imminent peril, when all their hopes get blasted by the terrific force of Allied invasion. But still we should not blind ourselves to the fact that German resistance will be powerful when it is desperate Before the Axis is finally overthrown, there will have to be terrific fighting in Europe.

CHURCHILL : SYMBOL OF UNITED NATIONS

By C. E. GAYTON

IN the life or death struggle against Hitler's Germany in particular and the Axis as a whole, Mr. Wniston Churchill, Prime Minister, exemplifies all that is dour, dogged, and unrelenting in the British race. More, he is the symbol of the United Nations.

He is a universally acknowledged leader, and an inspiration to all the democratic nations.

The sum of his political experience embraces almost every major office of State, and goes back before the War of 1914–18.

Before that he had seen military service in various parts of the world; with the Spanish forces in Cuba in 1895, the Malakand Field Force in 1897, the Tirah Expeditionary Force in 1898, the Nile Expeditionary Force in the same year, and in the South African War which followed a year later, when he escaped after capture by the Boers, and in France in 1916.

STATESMAN, PROPHET, CHAMPION OF FREEDOM

A man of war? A fire-eater? Far from it. But most certainly a statesman of varied genius, as his political record shows; an uncannily exact prophet, as his warning utterances in recent years prove; and an unquenchable champion of freedom, of democratic institutions, and above all of justice, as his leadership of the British Empire has demonstrated.

He inspires the United Nations policy of refusing ever to compromise with, or to truckle to a system which has destroyed material and spiritual liberty over most of Europe, and seeks to destroy it over most of the world outside.

He has said that come what may Britain will fight to the last for the precious things of liberty; that she will never surrender. He said it when Britain was alone, when the odds were heavily against her, when the rest of the world thought that for Britain defeat and disaster were inescapable. Now nearly all the free nations are with Britain and they number 32.

There are few such examples of towering endurance and resolution of indestructible faith. These qualities lighten the whole sombre scene of the world, reviving hope long beaten down, renewing resolve weakened by disaster, creating a prospect, well and truly founded; of a peace with victory, a peace without chains, a peace with a new and stronger liberty because the evil of dictatorship by, and serfdom to, the German "master" race has been overcome.

FORESIGHT IN THE LAST WAR

If all this creates in your mind an impression of a man not made at all in the ordinary human mould you will misunderstand him.

Mr. Churchill is one of the most human men who ever stepped into British public life, or into the British House of Commons. He enjoys life, normally. He finds it vastly entertaining. That is self-evident in his manifold activities.

His political work has occupied the major part of his life. Yet such is the diversity of talent of Britain's Prime Minister, that his literary work alone, as one of the greatest living masters of English prose, would have secured him lasting fame.

He has served his country as Secretary for the Colonies, President of the Board of Trade, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, First Lord of the Admiralty, Minister of Munitions, Secretary of State for War, Secretary of State for Air, Chancellor of the Exchequer; and now he serves as Prime Minister.

It was he, as First Lord of the Admiralty, who took a great part in building up the strength of the British Navy before the last war. It was he alone who saw that it was mobilized and ready on the instant that war broke out in 1914. What that foresight meant to Europe we shall probably never know precisely. It was he who took a great hand in organizing Britain's munitions output in the later stages of the last war. To vary his own famous phrase, seldom have so many owed so much to one.

"LIVE DANGEROUSLY, DREAD NAUGHT"

The key to his character, to the indomitable spirit that sustained him in Britain's darkest hour in 1940, is contained in these revealing words that he once wrote:

"Nature is merciful, and does not try her children, man or beast, beyond their compass. Live dangerously, dread naught, and all will be well."

A message of hope now, as when it was written.

MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Churchill is human because he likes good living, and good humour—his own sallies are stimulating and witty in the House of Commons and outside—and because he is impatient, occasionally unpunctual, sometimes untidy, a considerable smoker (of cigars), an accomplished dabbler in cooking in normal times, an artist of parts (he has painted scores of excellent pictures), likes a drink, takes forty winks when he can (he can cat-nap at any time and almost anywhere), loves and responds to good talk, reads voraciously in bed, can disconcert people occasionally with the vigour of his reactions, and has a prodigious scowl as well as an infectious grin.

ORATOR WHO STIRS THE WORLD

As all the world knows now, of course, he is also one of the greatest orators of all time, though he never talks for the sake of talking. This last is all the more remarkable because he has a very slight, only faintly discernible lisp, a most disabling thing for a man embarked upon a political career. He overcame the impediment by sheer assiduity, as he has overcome most other difficulties in his life.

His memory is encyclopædic, his energy almost inexhaustible (thanks partly to that capacity to sleep at will and thus recruit vitality at odd times).

He has often been depicted as an impatient, erratic, impulsive genius. Intellectually, he *is* a genius, but he is also an orderly worker of tremendous intensity, giving incredible attention to detail. He is impulsive only in the sense that when seized of an idea he must investigate it without delay, even in the middle of the night.

His working day now is really unending. He is always on call, and demands to be called at any time when important developments are afoot. He left a tremendous tradition of activity all round the clock at the Admiralty.

KEEPING THE BROAD OUTLOOK

He begins work round about 7-30 a.m. in the ordinary way, at 10, Downing Street, which is the official residence of the British Prime Minister in peace time. He presides over Cabinet meetings, keeps in constant touch with the departments of the fighting services for which he has an overriding responsibility, and with other major Ministries, reads innumerable despatches and reports, and generally maintains an unremitting survey of the broad horizon of events, actual and potential.

He seems always to canter rather than walk. Physically as well as mentally he is continually on the spring.

Altogether a rare man. A man of destiny. A man to lead and achieve, who will assuredly transmute hope into Victory.

U.S. ARMY'S LATEST WEAPON.—This is the first picture of the U.S. Army's new two-man anti-tank rifle, which enables foot soldiers to combat tanks, pill boxes and armoured cars. It has already been used by American soldiers in the Tunisian campaign. One soldier loads it and another is able to fire it alone from the shoulder.

THE GRAND ALLIANCE

WITH the launching of Japan's treacherous attack on the United States of America and the British Commonwealth of Nations the present war assumed truly global proportions and the conception of the United Nations was crystallized.

We have had, however, the hard core of the United Nations in Britain ever since Germany's attack on Poland and her subsequent assault on the other countries of Europe. Britain is, and has been, the rallying point of the United Nations, housing as she does all the dispossessed European Governments.

The first thing that strikes one about this resolute band of nations who, with all their differences and diversities, are yet determined upon the complete elimination of Nazism and Fascism wherever found, is that this union was not in response to a formal compact.

The grand alliance was born under the stress of war; and resolved though it is on winning the war, it looks beyond the "cease fire" signal.

PEACE AND THE FOUR FREEDOMS

All the United Nations have subscribed to the Atlantic Charter of August 14, 1941, whose provisions include President Roosevelt's four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from fear and freedom from want—and have been stated by the President himself (October 28, 1942), to apply to "all humanity."

The United Nations, as President Roosevelt explained on February 23, 1942, "constitute one association of independent peoples of equal dignity and importance. They are dedicated to a common cause and, in the partnership of common enterprise, must play their several parts, each being equally indispensable and dependent on the other."

It is also clear that preservation of peace after the overthrow of the aggressor powers is amongst the most cherished aims of the United Nations.

"Their aim," says Madame Chiang Kai-sheik, "is the complete overthrow of those who harboured dreams of world domination and the positive prevention of any revival of that dream." And the meaning of the United Nations Flag Day (June 14) is underlined by President Roosevelt's message of May 5 which reads:—

"They are emblems of the gathering offensive that shall liberate the world. Made strong by our common bonds, we shall face the future with resolution and rededicate ourselves to the achievement of prominent collaboration among nations and security for all men."

SPECIFIC UNDERTAKINGS

Among other pledges of co-operation we have (1) the resolution of the Allied Governments (U.K., the Dominions, the eight European Allied Governments in London and the Free French) at St. James's Palace, London, on June 12, 1941, to "continue the struggle until victory, to assist each other mutually to the utmost of their respective capacities and to work together, and with other free peoples, both in peace and war";

(2) the resolutions of the same Allied Governments and Russia (September 24, 1941), adhering to the Atlantic Charter and planning of post-war relief; and

(3) the Anglo-Russian Treaty (May 26, 1942), which is to last for 20 years, and stipulates "close and friendly collaboration for the organization of security and economic prosperity in Europe, all possible mutual economic assistance, and mutual aid against any renewal of aggression."

MILITARY CO-ORDINATION

The complete success of Allied operations in North Africa is a tribute to the smooth functioning of the joint war machinery that has been set up bit by bit. The Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Pacific War Council, the Combined Munitions Assignments Board and the Combined Shipping Adjustment, Food and Raw Materials Boards are among the bodies which share credit for our successes up to date.

"The recent conference of combined staffs in Washington has ended in complete agreement on future operations in all theatres of war," said an official statement issued on May 27, 1943, on the results of the talks between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill. Remembering the success of Allied operations in Africa, the Axis leaders will not derive any satisfaction from this statement.

An early and striking instance of military co-operation among the United Nations is the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, which came into being as a result of agreement signed at Ottawa on December 17, 1939, by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. To-day some 140 air force establishments are operating in Canada, including 93 training schools.

British Troops' Pride in the "Fighting Fourth"

The British element in the fourth Indian Division are just as proud of the red hawk, the divisional sign on their battle-dress, as the Indian troops, writes an Indian Army Observer.

On arrival in the First Army area in Tunisia men of the Royal Sussex and Essex Regiments and the gunners were overheard referring with becoming modesty to their past achievements with such sentences as "Well, we in the Fourth don't do it that way," "Yes, we have Koren," "The Akarit show wasn't too bad."

Men of the First Army were not jealous of the Fourth Division who had been brought up for the fighting in the hills. They conceded the Division's superiority in mountain warfare and gave the Fourth every help.

CO-OPERATION AMONG UNITED NATIONS

EACH PADDLES HIS OWN CANOE IN CONVOY

By E. CHISHOLM THOMSON

[E. Chisholm Thomson is a well-known British journalist and commentator; has for 20 years contributed to leading journals in Britain and the U S.A.; was associated with broadcasting in its early days in Britain and did much as a B.B.C. executive to popularise television.]

THE United Nations Day celebrations will give expression to the co-operation of the world's biggest brotherhood-in-arms that grows ever firmer. Their armies are working as one.

Flags will be flown and drums banged from China to Mexico on June 14, the day of the United Nations. This is the day on which 32 countries and all those Frenchmen, who true to the national spirit are antagonistic to Vichy, will reaffirm the biggest brotherhood-in-arms since history came to be written. And at the geographical and spiritual centre of all these high festivals will stand the British Isles, the hard core on which the Axis forces break their teeth.

"THAT WIDER UNDERSTANDING"

It is because the United Nations stand for freedom and toleration that boys and girls of the British Commonwealth will be waving their flags shoulder to shoulder with children from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Holland, France, Norway and Belgium; that the American folk will stand four square with the people of Canada, Bolivia and Brazil; that the Russians, Chinese, Indians, South Africans, Australians and New Zealanders will give each other a brotherly handshake in the spirit of the Atlantic Charter.

As Churchill, Britain's Prime Minister, said on the United Nations Day a year ago, "We pledge each other not merely support and succour till victory comes, but that wider understanding, that quickened sense of human sympathy—without which the suffering and the striving of the United Nations would not achieve its full reward."

And as the American President put it, "The United Nations stand for the four freedoms—the freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear." One day, let us hope, these freedoms will come to all peoples, but just now there must be less and less "freedom from fear" for the guilty Axis Powers. Hitler and Hirohito may well quake in their beds at night, when they contemplate the growing strength of the military machine now created within the United Nations.

Let us see how this machine is working. The Allied strategy rests mainly on two huge wheels—the combined Chiefs of Staff Committees in Washington and London, together working like brothers. There is besides the Pacific War Council, which consists of Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, India, China and the Netherlands. There are Russian Missions in London and Washington and the British Mission in Moscow.

COMMON GOAL

All these join up like the tracks of a huge war tank. In surmounting obstacles, each section and each track belongs to the whole and this is very important—they all travel in the same direction. Thus every soldier from the whole of the British Commonwealth, every American, every Pole, Russian, Chinese and Norwegian—every soldier belonging to the United Nations—fights on an equal footing following signposts which point either to Berlin or Tokyo or to both, and thence to freedom.

How well this spirit of brotherhood was expressed by the Chinese General Lo Cho-ying! "The Chinese troops now in India," he said a year ago, "will resist any invaders that may set foot on Indian soil in pursuance of our decision to fight the enemies of the United Nations wherever they may be found."

COMRADELY SPIRIT

This comradely spirit has shone out again and again in the past few years. On many fronts the United Nations forces are fighting or have fought under a single command. In the triumphant North African campaign just ended, Britain's troops shared their task with—among others—South Africans, Indians, Australians and New Zealanders, French, Poles Belgians and Czechoslovaks.

In the final "kill" when the German General von Arnim was cornered on the bleak Tunisian peninsula, he gave up his baton to a British commander serving under the orders of the American General Eisenhower. And it was right and proper that his final surrender should have been to the Fourth Indian Division—that tough, disciplined, war-tested body of men who captured the Italian Duke of Aosta way back in the Abyssinian campaign.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE

Friendship can break prison bars, but the North African war showed that it could also blow up minefields. Just before the great Allied attack at El Alamein, which paved the way for the victory in Tunisia, the enemy had plastered his front with a honey-comb of mines—a nasty obstacle which threatened to break the force of the first onslaught. But two young Polish officers came forward with a brilliant invention. It was a mine-detector At once it was adopted and used with immediate success. Just another example of practical co-operation among the Allies.

Since their own soil was invaded, the forces of the European United Nations have fought against the Axis on many fronts: the Belgians in France and in the African fighting; the French in Africa and Syria; and the Dutch in the Pacific. Norwegians have actually raided their own shore to kill the Germans there.

That is not the whole story by any means. Every one of the United Nations can point to personal instances of co-operation. This co-operation has reached a new peak in the dispatch of military equipment to Russia to help her in her great stand against the German invader. Britain alone has sent more than 2,000 tanks to the Russian front, as well as armoured vehicles, guns, wireless equipment and 3,000,000 pairs of army boots.

Meanwhile, the fighting men of the European Nations overrun by the Axis have found a "home from home" in Britain and this Island has become an arsenal. Its garrison includes troops from Norway, Holland, Belgium and Poland who, with the fighting French, are organized under their own officers and wear army uniforms of their own countries.

FREE AND INDEPENDENT

In Britain, too, stand the mighty Canadian forces and Newfoundlanders. Thus their barracks and camps are for the time being little bits of their own beloved countries; for it is one of the principles of the United Nations that the men should retain their own national traditions and customs whether exiled or not.

There is for instance, the French Military Cadet School for boys under fighting age who managed to escape from France to join the Allied forces. In a big country school these lads are trained under French officers in all branches of modern warfare and they brush up their mathematics and grammar at the same time. The Polish Army, too, has a school for its soldiers in Scotland, the teachers being Polish professionals who have either been invalided out of the army or are now too old to fight. And the Polish Military Bureau in Edinburgh trains officers in Home Guard duties and military law.

These institutions are free and independent as if they stood on their own liberated soil. For it is the wise axiom of the United Nations that while the war lasts every member shall paddle his own canoe so long as he paddles in convoy.

TWO AWARDS IN SAME ACTION

15th PUNJABI N.C.Os. WIN I.O.M.

TWO N.C.Os. of the 15th Punjab Regiment were awarded the I.O.M. (Second Class) for gallantry in an action in which both were concerned in the Rathedaung area on February 3, as recently announced.

Havildar Mahomed Akram, a Punjabi Mussalman, of Malhal village, Bamla, Jhelum district, in the second of two assaults on a Japanese-held hill led his platoon right on to the enemy position where he was killed and the few remaining men with him wounded. "By his devotion to duty," states the citation, "Havildar Mahomed Akram enabled his men to make the final effort and to reach their objective in spite of the heaviest opposition."

Naik Wazir Badshah, a Khattak Barak, of Dagarnai village, Kohat, in spite of heavy machine-gun fire and a shower of grenades went forward alone and single-handed attacked a Japanese L.M.G. position with grenades, killing or wounding the entire crew. Swinging his tommy-gun into position he opened fire on nearby enemy posts until twice wounded.

GURKHAS IN ACTION

Men of the famous Gurkha regiments have helped the Eighth Army to pierce the Mareth Line. These troops have completely fulfilled their fine reputation and their methods have proved very effective in the mountainous country. The dreaded Khukri, their special weapon, has played a striking part in the attacks. Picture shows Gurkhas advancing over rock-strewn ground in their attack on an enemy strong-point.

Picture shows: Field Ambulance of the Indian Medical Service in action during the Eighth Army's attack on the Mareth Line. The casualty is a member of a Gurkha Battalion, which was attacking an enemy position in the Tunisian hills.

Recently General Montgomery visited a battalion of Gurkhas which helped the Eighth Army to pierce the Mareth Line. The Battalion has also seen active service on the North-West Frontier, in Persia and in the Battle of Alamein. Picture shows General Montgomery displaying a keen interest in the Khukris of the Gurkha Troops. The men have used these weapons with deadly effect in the Tunisian hills.

ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE

GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF UNITED NATIONS

By E. CHISHOLM THOMSON

[E. Chisholm Thomson is a well-known British journalist and commentator; has for twenty years contributsd to leading journals in Britain and the United States of America; was associated with broadcasting in its early days in Britain and did much as a B.B.C. executive to popularise television.]

IN a very vital sense we are each other's keepers, so help me God.

So said Field Marshal Smuts, the great South African soldier and statesman, speaking about the United Nations a year ago. The truth in his words again flashes around the world as we hold the grand family birthday party of the Allied Nations on June 14, the day of the United Nations.

THE SLOGAN

The slogan is "one for all and all for one," and it is in this spirit that the 32 United Nations give each other mutual support. It finds its most practical outlet—in the economic field at least—in the "Lend-Lease" and the "reverse Lend-Lease," two terms which stand for the greatest share-out of the world's resources since history began.

The story begins away back in the summer of 1940, when the British Commonwealth facing Germany alone after the fall of France won the first token of America's practical sympathy in the shape of 50 destroyers, old but seaworthy, in return for a long lease of sea bases belonging to Britain.

A NEW PLAN

The principle was established that money was not everything; Britain might be short of dollars through her extensive war purchases, but she could offer goods and services in exchange for the things she so desparately needed. A new plan was evolved and it worked.

By the beginning of 1941, the United States had passed a Bill enabling the President to sell under Lease-Lend "any defence article to any country whose defence he deems vital to the defence of the United States."

FAR-REACHING STATESMANSHIP

Not only the original 26 United Nations but several others have since been brought under the scope of this far-reaching piece of statesmanship. The defence of countries covering two-thirds of the earth's surface is deemed vital for the safety of America, and Hitlers and Hirohitos may well tremble when they consider its implications.

For the truth of the matter is that in fighting mad dogs we do not haggle about which stick we shall use or who paid for it. And so in this war for freedom against tyranny money problems are not allowed to intervene. Every nation pours goods and services into the common pool with which a common war is being waged.

SUPPLIES FOR RUSSIA

Let us see how this works in practice. Take the case of Russia which has stood up so valiantly against the German onslaught. British and American supplies flow there unceasingly through Persia and by the Arctic route to Murmansk and Archangel. Britain's contribution alone includes tanks, aircraft, guns, metal, oil, rubber, as well as medical supplies, clothing and comforts.

The delivery of supplies to China since the loss of the Burma Road has been difficult, but Britain and America are constantly alive to her needs, and army instructors have been sent to train their troops in modern methods of warfare. Medical centres have been established for the prevention of malaria.

INDIA'S ROLE

India plays her own special part in the eastern supply group which has transformed British territories east and south of Suez into a vast system of supply for the Allied forces from North Africa to the South-West Pacific.

The United Nations of continental Europe have also established a pool for mutual aid. Holland through Dutch Guiana supplies America with bauxite (for aluminium), as well as oil; the Fighting French provide gold, copper, tin and palm oil from Equatorial Africa for British use; and large supplies also come from Belgian Congo. Now with the victory in North Africa other French sources of supply come into reckoning.

LEND-LEASE IN REVERSE

By means of the reverse Lend-Lease, the Allies provide the United States with many vital services without money payments. These include airfields, repair depots, machine-tools, gun factory equipment, shipping repairs to ships in foreign ports and invaluable war materials which go back to America in the holds of returning ships.

Great though they are, the resources of the United Nations are not unlimited, and if everyone dipped into the pool as and when he liked no one would be more pleased than Hitler to see the chaos that resulted. Very wisely the Allies have created powerful Control Boards which decide how all these resources can be used and shared in the best possible way. They deal with production of munitions, raw materials, shipping and food.

COMBINED BOARDS

Like the war staffs, they have their main bases in Washington and London, and the combined boards discuss their problems with the representatives of Russia, China and the other United Nations.

The war is a total one and it takes all our time, but even so, the United Nations are looking ahead. Britain and her allies see the day when, in the words of the Atlantic Charter. "All States, great or small, victor or vanquished, will enjoy access on equal terms to the trade and raw materials of the world." They see the peace to come "which will afford the assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want."

POST-WAR PROBLEMS

This is not an empty hope. Plans have already advanced far since that autumn day in 1941, when at St. James's Palace in London, representatives of Britain, the Dominions, Russia and other allies resolved to work together for the relief and reconstruction of occupied countries.

Food will be the first necessity, and already four of the United Nations—Britain, the United States, Australia and Canada—have arranged with Argentine for a relief pool of at least 100,000,000 bushels of wheat.

FORMULATING PLANS

Meanwhile the International Labour Office and the various Allied committees are hammering out plans to beat post-war unemployment and to improve distribution of food and to build up countries torn by war.

Britain stood firm with only 21 miles of sea between her and the Continental bully. But history repeated itself. The bully did his worst and failed, and now men and women of the British Commonwealth, with the longed-for victory at last in sight, join hands with their brother nations of the free world—"*one for all and all for one.*"

Brigadier put in the Bag

No one was more surprised than Lieutenant X when, during a training exercise in Southern India, he found himself on top of the enemy Bde. H.Q.; crawling in semi-darkness, he gave orders to his platoon to encircle this enemy stronghold. Himself he made a mad rush towards the Brigadier who was buried in a map with his staff officers.

On seeing enemy colours on the subaltern's hat, the Brigadier knew the game was up, but tried his last straw by shouting wildly at the youthful captor.

After a few minutes, a small crowd was being led away in the prisoners cage. In the dim light from a distance could be seen the irate Brigadier who had lost his face by exposing his H.Q. and was now watching the battle from the cage.

REFLECTIONS ON ALLIED STRENGTH

By HAROLD NICOLSON

I have spent practically the whole of this war in London. When I look back along the vista of years which separate us from that strange day in September, 1939, when Chamberlain announced that once again we were at war with Germany, I am conscious of many memories.

I remember nights when the whole of London seemed to be on fire and when the crash of anti-aircraft guns was interspersed with the rising shriek of falling bombs. I remember mornings when the streets of the great city smelt of dust and ashes, when roads were blocked by fallen buildings, when the glass of shattered windows lay deep upon pavements, when the hoses of fire brigades were strung from road to road. I remember those anxious days in 1940 when we knew that France was beaten and when we feared that the whole of the British Army might be forced to surrender.

I remember the time when the British Commonwealth stood alone against a triumphant enemy and when between us and surrender there stood only the faith of a great people personified in the will power and courage of a tremendous leader. I can remember loss, anxiety and disaster. I can remember weeks when every day the news seemed to be worse and worse; and I can remember how the people of this small island were never discouraged, never divided, never dismayed. And I can recall how step by step and month by month, we began to recover and prepare our strength, how great and powerful nations, unassailable in their own countries, irresistible in their might, came one by one to our assistance. And I remember all these long and anxious years.

I realise that to-day our victory is certain and that in the next few months, though many trials and many disappointments may await us, the great power of the United Nations will build itself up until the moment when a crashing blow will be dealt to the Axis structure and while the edifice of their schemes, their ambitions and their power falls in dust and rubble to the ground. As I think back on all these glorious and tragic events, I am aware that having witnessed all these things from London itself, it seems to me that Britain has always been the centre of strength, has always been the fortress of resistance around which the might and majesty of the United Nations has slowly gathered.

CENTRE OF ALLIANCE

I sometimes wonder whether, had I spent these years at Aden or Isphahan, I should have seen the whole terrible picture from a different angle and therefore in different proportions. Looking up towards the north-west, above the vast spaces of Asia, Africa and Europe, I should have seen this little island anchored off the peninsula of Europe, and I should have said to myself, "But can it really be true that this tiny spot of land upon the world's surface can really have been the core and centre of resistance against the greatest military power that the world has ever known? Can it really be true that the people of Britain who number only half the population of Germany, who were peaceable people, civilian people and untrained in the arts of war can it really be true that these people in the moment of world danger, were able first to take on themselves this enormous burden and thereafter become the centre of so vast an alliance?"

Why are they true? I don't pretend for one moment that the British people are stronger or cleverer than other peoples of the world. I am well aware that without the heroic strength of China, without the massive brilliance of Russia's military achievement, without the generous aid and overwhelming force of the United States, this little island, even with the wholehearted support of the Dominions and Colonies, could not have withstood for many years longer the organized fury of the Axis and could never have hoped, as we can now hope with certainty, to bring down the twin monster of German and Japanese militarism to their knees. But although I don't claim that we as a people have such a genius for battle that we can conquer all the nations of the world, I do believe that we possess certain great virtues which in time of danger fit us to become the champions of world freedom and the centre of resistance against the enemies of mankind.

During that dark year between June, 1940, and June, 1941, Britain stood virtually alone, but not entirely alone. For, Britain had become, as never before, the focus and rallying point for the forces of freedom. Here, battered but undefeated remnants of Continental armed forces—French, Polish, Belgian, Dutch, Norwegian, Czech—regathered their strength.

STREAM OF BRAVE MEN

Swollen by the steady stream of the brave men who made their way across narrow seas, these forces became once again disciplined, skilled and well qualified armies, navies and air forces. Already these arms of the United Nations have fought side by side with their British and American comrades in Africa and elsewhere. Their navies and air forces have been waging offensive war from British bases; their main armies stand ready for the great advance into to-morrow's liberated Europe. Britain has supplied arms, food, barracks and camps, even uniforms for these Allied soldiers; she and America have handed over hundreds of the latest fighter and bomber aircraft. She has replaced Allied warships sunk in service with the latest vessels from her own yards. These Allied forces in Britain fight under their own officers. Their barracks and camps are regarded as pieces of their own countries. Several maintain their own military cadet and other training schools. The men wear their own national uniform.

But independence and co-operation go together, for all Allied armed forces are welded into a single strategic unity by the plans of Combined Staff Committees in London and Washington. Seven Allied fleets operating from British waters—Fighting French, Greek, Netherlands, Norwegian, Polish and Yugoslav—have added no fewer than 220 fighting ships and 27,000 officers and men to United Nations' sea strength. A great Allied merchant navy of not less than 6,750,000 gross tonnage sails in United Nations convoys; each ship is an independent entity under its own officers, but each fitted into its place in the common effort by combined shipping adjustment board.

To-day, for the first time, eight governments operate freely from British soil—those of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luzembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Yugoslavia and Poland together with the Fighting French National Committee. These are completely autonomous bodies with their own laws, some with their own civil courts, most with their own financial resources. Here is autonomy and co-operation combined.

Cultural life of the United Nations in Britain is served in many ways—by clubs and social centres, societies, libraries, schools and even universities. Each government has drawn up plans for the education of its young people along the traditional lines of their national culture, setting up its own schools with aid and co-operation of the British Council. English schools and universities too are open to Allies of Britain. Technical schools are preparing citizens of liberated Europe for their vital tasks. The Belgian Ministry of Education for instance, has with the help of British authorities, established 17 elementary schools, three secondary schools, a technical school and arranged some 200 correspondence courses. National and British teachers work side by side in many of these schools. The Polish Government has several elementary and secondary schools, a college for young soldiers, and even a Polish medical school attached to the Edinburgh University's Faculty of Medicine and staffed by Polish and British professors. A Polish school of architecture is now operating in Liverpool.

So it is that while the British Commonwealth, Russia and U.S.A. contain the main strength of the enemy, other Allied nations are fighting and preparing to fight, working in British war factories and in civil defence and preparing for the liberation of their own countries. They have not lost their national freedom, culture or laws during their temporary exile. But they have gained and Britain too has gained enormously by new knowledge of and friendship with one another. The Axis are faced to-day by the alliance of the United Nations whose purpose is unflinching, whose unity is unassailable, whose might will before long be overwhelming.

I do not write in terms of national vanity, since our suffering may have rendered us proud but has not rendered us conceited. I write with the conviction that Britain must hold the central place in this great alliance and that if we hesitate to place our wisdom, our experience and virtue at the service of all peoples, we will fail to fulfil the great responsibility which destiny has placed on our shoulders.

Sweeper to Rescue

Sweeper Kharku of the 16th Punjab Regiment, is held in affection by officers and men of his battalion, says an Indian Army Observer.

Two officers of the regiment were hit by shell splinters simultaneously during the attack on Jobol Garei. One was badly hurt and the other called out for help.

The first man to reach them and give assistance was Battalion sweeper Kharku although he was wounded in the ankle by a piece of shell.

FORGING PEACE AFTER WAR

THE United Nations—an instrument forged in wartime primarily to win the war—have already proved the value of co-operation and co-ordinated planning in the task of defeating the Axis.

But the future is more important; and the problems of the peace to come will be no less difficult than those of war. The United Nations' record of co-operation in war and their plans for the post-war world do at least indicate that the problems are being tackled in a more realistic way than ever before.

The leaders have made no wholesale promises of paradise for all, but there is the unmistakable urge to establish conditions of peace and security, of law and order.

There is the further realisation that after the Axis has been broken, the United Nations have to wage a nobler war against inflation, unemployment and world economic depression; that, as against the ideal of Axis domination, based on the myth of racial superiority, the United Nations have to draw up and implement the Charter of the Economic Rights of Man.

Nothing, however, is being taken for granted. As Sir Stafford Cripps, the then Lord Privy Seal, emphasised on November 15, 1942, when the war is over and the aggressors have been destroyed, the peoples of the world will be ready for a great forward movement.

But, warned Sir Stafford Cripps, "by that time the Governments of the United Nations must concert sound, business-like plans which ensure that our advance is not merely a leap into the dark . . . Without personal sacrifice we can never gain peace, justice and equality within our country; without national self-sacrifice we shall never build peace, justice and equality in the world. We must not be inspired by what we gain but by what we give."

Equally significant is the language of Winston Churchill's message on the United Nations Day, June 14, 1942: "We pledge to each other", he declared, "not merely support and succour till victory comes, but that wider understanding, that quickened sense of human sympathy, that recognition of the common purpose of humanity without which the sufferings and strivings of the United Nations would not achieve their full reward."

SOVIET INTEREST IN RECONSTRUCTION

PRAVDA of June 14 brings before the public the full text of the United Nations' post-war aid and recovery administration proposals, and, in so doing, has deliberately directed public attention, for the first time since the war began, to the consideration of post-war problems. It is another earnest of Russia's good faith that the Washington project should be held up for the scrutiny of a people always eager to discuss forward-looking plans, observes *The Times* Moscow correspondent. The Hot Springs conference proceedings were carefully recorded in Soviet periodicals, but the publication of the Washington project brings home to every Soviet newspaper reader the fact that a bold and realistic plan exists, even though as yet only in outline, for spreading the post-war burden over the United Nations according to their ability to bear it. There is little doubt that this knowledge will help the Russian people through the grave days ahead.

Interest in reconstruction has been growing lately. An architectural commission left recently for Stalingrad to collect information for a long-range restoration plan. Another commission is also working in Voronezh. A design for rebuilding wrecked Istra as a health resort for Moscow has been published. In solving problems concerning the construction of one or two-storey industrial settlement buildings—the type likely to be extensively used during the restoration period—the Soviet housing authorities are anxious to make a thorough study of American and British experience. A number of special publications in which this experience is summarised are being prepared. The field of town-planning is one in which, if existing transport conditions can be further improved, Allied architects can usefully co-operate even at this stage of the war.

GLOBAL AIR STRATEGY

THE very heavy R.A.F. raid on Dusseldorf and other Rhineland targets marked a new stage of air offensive in the west. This and the equally impressive daylight attack on U-boat bases by a great fleet of Flying Fortresses is swift proof to the enemy that an operation like the battering of Pantellaria is only one of a world-wide series of air attacks, writes the *Star*.

In the Pacific, the tables have been turned so completely that the extremely cautious Mr. Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia, considers his country no longer under threat of invasion. Allied air forces are steadily pounding Rabaul in New Britain, the most powerful Japanese operational outpost, while the American fleet isolates it by blockade. This Pantellaria of the South Pacific—one of many of its kind—has to be destroyed before the main Allied attack can be developed.

A remorseless air offensive is also being carried out by Russians. They, too, have apparently undermined the confidence of the Axis air fleet. Great raids on enemy airfields that have led to the destruction of 160 Axis planes within 12 hours are a forcible comment on the idea that the Eastern Front is quiescent. Despite the world scope of these vast air operations, they have yet to rise to their climax. In the United States of America alone the record number of 7,000 planes were built in May; this foretells bigger and more terrific raids by the United Nations. The Axis can see the unfolding of a world strategy in which these air blows are but the prelude to inevitable military attacks.

R.A.F.'S SATURATION TECHNIQUE

THE plan now being followed by Sir Arthur Harris, Chief of the Bomber Command, is the development of the saturation technique whereby a large number of bombers raid a target in a short time causing the greatest devastation while exposing the planes only to a brief spell of vulnerability. This technique has proved successful, observes the *Daily Express* aeronautical correspondent. It has kept down the ratio of our losses to the figures of last year, when the Bomber Command was operating less than half the total force usually employed on a big raid now.

Here is a development. It has been reasoned from more than three years' experience that each raid should be a battle launched with the maximum possible number of planes. There cannot be a battle every night, for no air force in the world has sufficient planes for that. Instead, a few nights each month are selected—there are always enough good weather nights—when the Bomber Command drops its quota of bombs for the month. Last month it was 12,500 tons; this month it may be 15,000 or more.

No other factor seriously influences the Bomber Command's strategic plan, which is to knock the heart out of the enemy countries.

RED AIR FORCE'S STRENGTH

Tribute to the effectiveness of Red Air Force raids on enemy airfields and communications is paid by the commander of a French fighter squadron whose men have taken part in many raids recently, cables *The Times* Moscow correspondent. Probably no factor is more important in the Red Air Force's greater relative strength this summer than the mastery that it has won of the high skies. Analysing the Kuban air campaign, Colonel Vasiliev writes that not only have Russian fighters secured the initiative but they appear to have broken the Luftwaffe's confidence. "He who is master of the heights is master of the battle" is an axiom often heard in the Red Air Force, and, the writer states, Russian patrols have driven the Germans from high levels.

BITER BIT

TIDE HAS TURNED AGAINST AXIS

THE *Ulus* believes that the submarine war is developing in favour of the Allies. It writes:—

"The Axis which have entered an impasse on land and appear to have lost mastery of the air, are more than ever relying on the issue of the submarine war. Their efforts to speed up submarine activities are increasing in direct proportion to the reverses on the other fronts but the Allies have taken measures to increase their ship construction and to decrease their shipping losses.

Their losses in April were 50 per cent less than those in March and in May their losses were even smaller. The Germans explain this decrease by saying that there were fewer Allied convoys crossing the Atlantic. Such an explanation does not carry conviction.

There has not been the slightest breakdown in British activities connected with sea transport. In these circumstances, it is more reasonable to listen to the Allies who attribute this decrease to greater naval and aircraft protection and progressive anti-submarine methods."

The *Ulus* writes on Germany's difficulties in occupied Europe: "The German military might is still formidable but the difficulties and responsibilities besetting it to-day have assumed proportions admitting of no comparison with those of four years ago.

The occupied countries are now nothing but a series of ambushes. In case of invasion, the Germans will have to take measures not only against the invading armies but against acts committed by the subjugated peoples.

The Germans who used the Fifth Column to their great advantage know better than anyone else when and how it begins to operate. With the exception of the Axis Powers, the peoples of Europe do not believe that the defence of Europe against the Allies is defence of their liberty or existence."

The *Vatan* believes that the tide has turned against the Axis.

"The war has turned to the advantage of the Allies. This is not a vain illusion. It is the truth based on most realistic observations.

One should remember that once the people spoke of Soviet collapse and Britain being expelled from Europe and of the Germans establishing liaison with the Japanese at Basra. A magic change has taken place.

The greatest change which has taken place is in the language used by Berlin. The tragic point for the Germans is that there is no hope of regaining their previous strength and repeating the extraordinary military victories of 1940 and 1941. The war is definitely lost for Germany."

THE ALGIERS AGREEMENT

NOTHING can detract from the momentous significance of the agreement reached in Algiers by the two sections of the French resistance movement, writes *The Times*.

Frenchmen everywhere have had a long and painful path to travel since June 1940. But none of their friends ever doubted that sooner or later her sons would achieve unity in action and find forgetfulness in the humiliating defeat and in a rededication to the over-riding cause of national deliverance.

The agreement reached by Generals de Gaulle and Giraud prescribes a form—and it may be confidently hoped, proclaims the essential spirit—of indissoluble union now and until victory. The joint statement issued strikes the needed note.

The Committee of National Liberation now set up speaks and acts for a France sustained by the loyalty of all free Frenchmen and soon to be liberated by their sacrifices. It is in the words of the official statement a servant of the French people. Its aim is reconstitution of the French Republic.

The decision of Algiers brings encouragement to the people of France. The defeat and the German extortions have brought physical impoverishment and distress of mind and soul. There is a grievous undernourishment particularly among women and children. A great mass of prisoners of war are still in German hands—a dark shadow of that close family life which means so much in France. Under the latest pact between Vichy and Berlin 225,000 more workers must leave for the Reich before the end of this month—young men whom France needs to-day and may need more to-morrow.

The decision of Algiers means that the palsied France of June three years ago is no more. France stands again as a single unit of war and in the councils of the Allies. It is a consummation towards which British and American policy has been steadily directed helped on by the constructive work of among others Mr. Harold Macmillan, the British Resident Minister.

GENERAL DE GAULLE.

JUNGLE GENEROSITY
CHINS' WAR EFFORT

THERE recently walked into the office of the Officer Commanding of the Chin Levies the headman of a tiny Chin village in the Burmese border country. In his hand he held a brightly coloured Burmese bag. In it was Rs. 370 in one rupee notes and small silver coins.

He was the leader of a small platoon formed by all the available manpower in the village, and had walked several days through the jungle to deliver the gift.

After several months of duty at a lonely out-post, the platoon had been relieved and allowed two months' leave. The first thing the headman did when they reached their village was to collect money for the war effort.

PATHAN SNIPERS DO NOT WORRY THESE TROOPS

ON the top of a hill in the rocky wilds of the North-West Frontier is a little patch of open ground trodden down to granite hardness by the feet of many troops.

It lies between the walls of a Frontier piquet and the outer barbed wire perimeter and overlooks many villages dotted on the surrounding slopes which harbour hostile tribesmen.

Despite constant danger from these Pathan marksmen, it is on this little piece of ground that the troops of this piquet daily indulge in their favourite recreation.

For this ground is a volley ball pitch built by the men and they won't miss their sport for anything. They are now planning to raise the ends of the pitch to render it less open to sniping.

THE COSSACKS

By NICHOLAS RUSKIN

THE Cossacks of Russia have for many years enjoyed a romantic and almost heroic reputation, although few people have any clear idea regarding their origin or significance. They have principally been associated with dashing cavalry charges, displays of horsemanship, and more recently, with a special type of unaccompanied choir singing. Such an impression of the Cossacks falls very far short of a proper appreciation of their significance in Russian history.

The derivation of the word "Cossack" is not fully established. In Russian they are called "Kazak" and this name seems first to have been applied to them in the middle of the 15th century by the Tartars during whose period of domination the Cossacks first made their appearance. The word is clearly of Tartar or Turkish origin, and seems to be derived from the word "kazmak", 'to seize'. It is important not to confuse this word "kazak" with the inhabitants of Kazakhstan, who are largely Kirghiz in origin and are nomads having no racial connexion with Cossacks.

LEAGUE OF FRONTIERSMEN

In the middle of the 15th century, when the Turko-Mongol power in Russian lands was beginning to wane, the intervening region between the Russian state and the "Golden Horde" was occupied by both Russian and Tartar settlers who were anxious to break away from the restrictions imposed upon individuals by both the Russian and Mongol states. On the Russian side a kind of league of independent frontiersmen was created who on the one hand preserved their independent state by marauding expeditions into Tartar lands, and on the other, constituted a kind of irregular frontier police which protected Russian lands against the inroads of the Tartars. The fact that the Cossacks were for a long period the only Russians in constant contact with the Tartars has given rise to the theory that the Cossacks are the only considerable element among Russian peoples who have any considerable quantity of Tartar blood in their veins.

Historians usually reckon that in the pre-Mongolian period of Russian history, three principles underlay the organization of Russian political authority: the monarchical, the aristocratic and the democratic. The last principle flourished in north-western Russia in Novgorod and Pskov, but the independence of these two regions disappeared in the 15th and 16th centuries. The democratic principle, however, reappeared in south Russia among the Cossacks, whose unit of organization was the Voisko, usually known in English as the Host. The first two Hosts to be formed were those of the Don in south-eastern Russia, and of the Zaporog in south-western Russia. These Hosts were pure republics under an elected president known as the Ataman. The Ataman had no independent power, but was merely the executive of the Cossack council known as the Circle. It was only during campaigns that the Ataman was given dictatorial power, and at the close of the campaign, he was obliged to give an account of his dictatorship to the Circle. In the early Cossack republics there were no class differences and no system of private ownership of land. The land belonged to the Host as a whole, and individual Cossacks were only considered as having the temporary use of the land which they occupied.

ABSENCE OF CLASS DIFFERENCE

The absence of class difference attracted a number of adherents to the Cossack Hosts from outside. This was particularly noticeable in the latter half of the 16th century when the institution of serfdom caused large numbers of settlers to emigrate from Moscow. At first, agriculture played little part in the life of Cossacks whose principal occupations were hunting and fishing. In the 17th century, however, classes began to form in the Cossack Hosts, the older settlers on the Don being called "house-owning" Cossacks while the newer arrivals having no property were called "*golytba*" or "shelterless" (literally, "naked"). The *golytba* frequently played an important part in political affairs in Moscow, as, for instance, during the "Time of Troubles" from 1605 to 1613, and during the revolt of Stenka Razin in 1670. Stenka Razin was the Ataman of the *golytba* of the Don Host who, with a large force of Cossacks forced his way down the Volga to the Caspian Sea. After occupying an island near the Persian shore, Stenka Razin managed to collect an enormous quantity of booty with which he returned to the Don. In 1870 he considered himself sufficiently strong to attack Moscow and captured the towns of Tsaritsyn (now Stalingrad), Astrakhan, Saratov and Samara. The Cossacks were joined by peasants and non-Russian tribes of these regions, but eventually, after suffering a defeat by Government troops, Stenka Razin fled to the Don where he was seized by the "house-owning" Cossacks, handed over to Moscow and eventually executed.

A study of a fine type of Cossack of the Red Army. He is Cossack Samodurov, a veteran of battles of 1918 against the German occupationists in the Ukraine, and is now a volunteer in the Kuban Cossack formation, aiding in Soviet Russia's present fight for freedom.

Another famous revolt in which the Cossacks took part was that of Mazeppa, the Ataman of the Ukraine Cossacks, who had secretly allied himself with Charles XII of Sweden.

EASTERN EXPANSION OF RUSSIA

Perhaps the greatest importance of the Cossacks lies in the part played by them in the eastern expansion of Russia. As this expansion proceeded, new Hosts were formed along the constantly changing border, and this policy was pursued by Russian Governments right up to the 20th century. The names of the Hosts tell the tale of Russian expansion: Don, Kuban, Terek, Astrakhan, Ural, Orenburg, Siberian, Semirechensk, Trans-Baikal, Amur, Ussuri. Being of a roving and restless disposition, the Cossacks were always ready to take part in new expeditions which gave promises of gain. Thus, when the Government in 1558 granted a trading concession to the Stroganov family for the development of the banks of the Kama river, the Tsar advised Gregory Stroganov to enrol a number of Don Cossacks. The concession was ultimately extended across the Urals to the Tobol river and the strength of the Cossacks force increased in response to the offer of the Stroganovs. A body of 640 Cossacks, headed by Yermak and Koltzo made their way north.

The name of Yermak has passed down as one of the most picturesque figures in history and he was moreover a great empire builder. Beginning life as a Volga boatman, he joined the Don Cossacks, eventually becoming an Ataman, in which capacity he headed a large band of pirates operating on the Volga. It was largely with the object of escaping the wrath of the Government at his brigandish operations that Yermak joined the Stroganov expedition. He can justly be regarded as the first conqueror of Siberia, inflicting as he did a signal defeat on the Tartar leader Kuchun. From the stronghold which

he built up in the town of Sibir. Yermak was able to open up negotiations as far south as Bokhara, and in addition to his military skill, displayed great ability as a diplomat. His services were ultimately recognized by the Tsar, an example thus being afforded of a characteristic attitude of Russian Governments of all ages. Some of the most important stages of Russian expansion have been brought about by military leaders without any orders from the central Government. But in spite of the embarrassment which these operations frequently caused the Government, they have always backed up their over-zealous servants and consolidated the gains thus acquired.

LIFE-LONG MILITARY SERVICE

For a long period, even up to the beginning of the last war, the Cossacks retained some semblance of independence in exchange for life-long military service. Under the previous regime, they were often employed to put down civil disturbances and thus became an object of fear and hatred among urban populations. During the last war, the terms of their military service were placed more in line with those of the regular army, and after the Revolution, by the decree of June 1st, 1918, the Cossack community was levelled with that of the rest of the population. During the Civil War, a considerable number of Cossacks left Russian territory, but large numbers remained and it is noteworthy that they found their age-long system of land tenure not unlike that introduced by the Soviet regime.

It is unlikely that the Cossacks will again achieve any distinct autonomy or independence, though they are still organized in special units in the Red army and have much distinguished themselves in guerilla fighting in the Kuban. It is difficult to obtain details of their present distribution and, on the whole, they may be regarded as having been merged in the general Russian population. In their day, however, the Cossacks have played an important and romantic part in the history of Russia.

—(*Soviet Union News*).

Letter to Editor.

Home Guard, Olympics and Hockey

O

Sir,

May I relate a little story which links the Home Guard, the Olympic Games and the All-India Hockey Team ?

In those fateful days, the Home Guard had few firearms except shot-guns and sporting rifles. In my own village near London, some thirty of us had only one service rifle with five rounds of ammunition, two D.B. shot-guns, a small-bore match rifle and a poacher's contraption, wired together, which could rarely have seen the light of day. A handful of bayonets, relics of the last war, knives and axes, completed the armament. Such revolvers as could be mustered were badly needed by the Army and were willingly given up.

At the Olympic Games of 1932 in Los Angeles and of 1936 in Berlin, there were very close and friendly relationships between the All-India Hockey Team, with which I had the honour to be associated, and the United States team, and in the intervening years I had kept up periodical correspondence with Mr. Henry Kirk Greer, Chairman of the United States Field Hockey Association, and himself a member of those two Olympic teams.

America was not then in the war, though many of her citizens were with us in spirit, but I felt that an appeal to Mr. Kirk Greer and his Olympic associates would not go unanswered. So I wrote and asked for the loan of two revolvers with ammunition and two pairs of binoculars, which were worth their weight in platinum at that time. In due course, he replied that he would do his best but that it would not be too easy.

Weeks and months passed and eventually I left England for the Far East. Not until the last winter did I receive letters and copies of letters which enabled the story to be pieced together. Mr. Kirk Greer not only did his best but succeeded, and in due course two revolvers with two boxes of ammunition, and two pairs of binoculars, duly arrived in England and are now being used by two of my Home Guard colleagues, who hold them in trust until peace returns when I shall hope to return them personally in New York.

The story of how Mr. Kirk Greer overcame all difficulties need not be related. It will perphaps suffice to say that it could not have been done without the co-operation of the American Committee for the Defence of British Homes and of Mr. Karl T. Frederick, a member of that committee and also Chairman of the Revolver Shooting Section of the American Olympic Committee.

To cover the expenses entailed, and they could not have been small, some of our Olympic and hockey friends made a donation to the American Committee for the Defence of British Homes. In addition to Mr. Kirk Greer and his wife (a well-known Welsh county player), they were Alexis Thompson, a member of the American Olympic team of '936; Robert D. Shea, an Oxford graduate and a member of that team ; and Frank Leslie-Jones, a Cambridge man who coached the American team both in 1932 and 1936. The last-named used to play in India and is a cousin of Brewin, our own All-India player of 1932.

I have greatly encroached upon your limited space, Sir, but I hope you will agree that it is worth-while. It has been the fashion in recent years to decry the Olympic Games as futile and worse. That is not my opinion nor is it justified by my experience of all of them since the last war. It is indeed my hope that they will quickly be revived and that they may even be held in India in 1948.

Here, at all events, is practical proof that the Olympic Games can and do foster international understanding and friendship, which moreover endures and finds material expression in time of distress. Our American friends who did something tangible to help the Home Guards, will certainly not expect a public acknowledgment. Nevertheless it is richly merited, and it is well that our many American friends now stationed in India should know that this small example of ready response, small only among so many greater ones, has been warmly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Simla. C. E. NEWHAM.

ALLIED PLANES RAID PANTELLERIA.—Marauders, Mitchells and Lightnings of the North-West African Air Force recently attacked the harbour installations at Pantelleria, damaging the oil storage depot and the barracks. This picture made on the raid shows the smoke rising from the burning oil dump.

Comparisons are Odorous

Soldiers sweltering in the sun
Or fighting when the frost was keen
Their glorious victories have won;
And sailors struggling in the green
Devouring ocean many a one
Have brought to port their shattered ship
And sailed next week another trip

For us. And we, what have we done?
What do those distant sufferings mean,
Those dangers that some others run
While we consume ourselves in spleen
(Far from the roar of plane and gun)
At having taken from our lips
Half of our daily dozen nips?

Past mine and net a submarine
Has crawled beyond a harbour bar
To speed at battleships unseen
Torpedoes, lighted by a star.
Those men have danced with death and been
Unmoved to hear the hunters pass
Above them in a sea like glass.

Destroying the destroyer lean,
Harryi g the foeman near and far,
They take apart the dread machine
That keeps a whole wide world at war.
And we behind the steely screen
In easy chairs on shaven grass
Complain the gin is not first class.

Riddled with bullets in a scrap
An airman baling out has found
No better landing, it may hap,
Than noisome jungle. Miles around
The jungle stretches like a trap,
And through its perils he must find
A foodless way to human kind.

While in the club a chubby chap
Whose feet have never left the ground
Talks breezily of Hun and Jap
And orders yet another round,
His belly snuggling in his lap.
His frame for combat's not designed,
But does he keep the war in mind?

Ten thousand men by land and sea
A single hour will sweep away,
As merry and as good as we,
Or rather better, shall we say?
To die their duty, it may be;
But have we too our word fulfilled
And wrought as bravely as we willed?

Condemn me, England, if my plea
Is "I will do some other day
My duty; now excuse it me."
Many have gone and I who stay
No less must labour to be free,
Though none will note it nor be thrilled
That my drop kept the bucket filled.

—*R.G.*

TOUGH CHIN SUBEDAR IS ROUGH ON JAPS

OLD but tough, a grizzled little Chin Subedar, pensioned from the Army after 32 years service, is once again in action with all the zest and cunning of the experienced campaigner. This time his foe is the Jap who is having a very unpleasant time indeed for the Subedar on the warpath always spells serious trouble.

Proud of his five medals, the old Subedar leads patrols into the plains below the Chin Hills. He is the hero of many daring attacks on the enemy. Japs sitting at a meal round a camp-fire in a village were surprised one day when the Subedar and a small party of Chin tribesmen crept up to them and opened fire. The survivors dropped their rice bowls and cooking pots and ran for their lives. The Japs began using mortars and the Subedar was obliged to withdraw his men.

RED CAVALRY DOING ITS BIT

By S. PERSOV

RUSSIAN cavalry has always enjoyed a well-deserved fame. In all former wars the Russian Cossacks and cavalry units displayed great courage and determination. During the Civil War, Budenny's cavalry corps covered itself with glory at Tsaritsyn (now Stalingrad) and other battles.

The present war differs radically from all the past wars: it is a war of motors. "What can a trooper with sabre do against steel armour?" is a question often asked. "How can a horseman attack a tank?" Twenty months of large-scale fighting on the Soviet-German front has proved that the Soviet troops can attack and defeat armoured fascist hordes.

STRUCK A FLANK BLOW

The action of the N. Cavalry Corps near the town of B may be taken as an example. It happened during the first months of the war. Mobile enemy units were threatening Soviet communications. The N Cavalry Corps was ordered to approach the town of B by a forced march, and strike a flank blow at this enemy formation which had advanced too far ahead of the main body. In two days the corps negotiated a hundred kilometres over rough roads. By a surprise blow the 293rd and 297th infantry, and the 19th motorized division of the enemy were routed, and the town of B was captured and communications were re-established.

On another occasion, troops under the German General Guderian, were pressing towards the East with orders for the capture of the town of R and striking from the rear at the Soviet army operating north of the town. A certain cavalry formation was assigned the task of delivering a flank attack at Guderian's group, and foiling his attempt to seize the town. After the night's march the cavalrymen struck a surprise blow at the enemy. About 30 tanks and 50 lorries with infantry and several mortar batteries were destroyed and instead of advancing upon the town of R, Guderian concentrated the bulk of his force against the cavalry. The troopers engaged the enemy until the main Soviet force came up and destroyed the fascist group.

BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES

Cavalry is frequently employed for operations behind the enemy lines. A successful raid in the enemy's rear was carried out by the cavalry corps under Major-General Dovator. In the course of a single ten-day operation Dovator's men crushed the Four Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry Regiment, destroyed the headquarters of two other regiments, the topographical department of the 6th German Army, about a score of enemy officers, upwards of 25-hundred men, 200 motor vehicles, four armoured cars, two tanks, four guns, six mortars, 30 heavy machine guns and captured a large amount of arms and equipment as well as valuable documents. Several times Dovator's men, operating behind the enemy lines, saved partisans and civilians from the clutches of fascists. The very word, "Cossack", was sufficient to strike terror into the hearts of the Germans. When only 3,000 of Dovator's troopers were behind the German lines, a captured German soldier declared: "There must be about a hundred thousand Cossacks in our rear." Fear does magnify facts!

And cavalry played as important part in German defeat at Moscow, in December 1941. Thus, Major-General Dovator's Cavalry Corps totally annihilated the 78th German Infantry Division. Falling back from Moscow, the Germans kept to roads while Dovator's horsemen moved over the deep snow parallel to the retreating enemy columns.

The Red Cavalry is also doing its bit today when the Soviet troops are delivering one crushing blow after another at the retreating fascists. During the past month or two, many Cossacks down the Kuban track have been fighting for the liberation of their native villages and towns. And the Germans have again had occasion to feel the sharpness of the Russian cavalry sabres.

(*TASS*).

RUSSIA'S FIELDS GO TO WAR

By I. LYUBANSKY

THE other day in Moscow, results were reviewed of the competition among the collective farms of the Soviet republics, regions and territories in 1942. The palm was awarded to the Kazakh republic which received the Challenge Banner of the State Defence Committee. And the Kazakh collective farmers have, indeed, shown splendid results in wartime. In spite of the fact that the most able-bodied among the population had left for the army and the number of tractors and horses reduced, the crop area last year exceeded the crop area of 1941 by 842,000 hectares. Two hundred and eight thousand hectares more of beet was sown than in 1941, while the area sown with rubber-bearing koksagyz increased eightfold. Spring sowing was completed 25 days earlier than in the previous year. Thus, the first wartime sowing was carried in Kazakhstan brilliantly.

REAPING THE HARVEST

No less successful was harvesting. Collective farmers took diligent care to prevent a single grain being lost during the harvesting and thrashing, with the result that the crop gathered was considerably larger than in 1941. This enabled Kazakhstan greatly to increase its produce and deliveries to the State, seven regions alone delivering 5,500,000 poods more than in 1941. One can, therefore, imagine what a tremendous effort was made last year during the harvest season. This, however, did not diminish the collective farmers' concern for the 1943 crop. Autumn ploughing was carried out successfully, 230,000 hectares of more land being ploughed than in 1941, while in the winter crop 262,000 hectares more were sown.

Kazakhstan is able to record big successes in livestock breeding. The republic's meat deliveries to the State in 1942 were 2,657,000 poods, milk 1,418,000 poods, and wool 108,000 poods more than in 1941. Furthermore, 925,000 poods of meat were delivered as advance on the 1943 account. Simultaneously, herds, flocks and livestock increased. Cows (in collective farms) increased by 22 per cent, sheep and goats 18 per cent and pigs 13 per cent.

On an average, every collective farm in Kazakhstan owned 1,270 head of cattle in 1941 and 15,000 in 1942. About 200 collective farms own 5,000 head of cattle each while 30 own 10,000. This is the result of the enthusiasm of the Kazakh collective farmers. Here are a few examples: in the Kurlan collective farm, in the Aktyubinsk region, Chaganak Versyev and his field team gathered a millet harvest of 17 tons per hectare on an average, while in the Avangard collective farm, in the Kzyl Ordinsk region, Kim Nansan and his team gathered a rice harvest of 15½ tons per hectare. One can imagine how much selfless effort these heroes of labour made to gather such harvests. The Kazakhstan collective farmers are working in front-line style and helping the Red Army and the country to defeat Hitlerism.

PENNIES FOR 'SMOKES'

MEN of a British Unit on the North-West Frontier were recently the happy recipients of several consignments of cigarettes purchased from pennies collected by school children.

"This parcel is a gift from the school children of Great Britain and the Empire. They have contributed their pennies on Empire Day to send some comfort to the men in the fighting line on land, sea and air", reads the card enclosed with each packet of cigarettes.

Part of the card is torn off by the recipient and posted to the headmaster of one of the schools cooperating in the scheme, thanking him for the gift.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

17TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives at Cologne and elsewhere in Rhineland. Transport and other targets were attacked in Holland and Belgium. [This was Cologne's 115th raid.]

An enemy convoy was attacked off the coast of Holland.

18TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force carried out a series of daylight sweeps on Holland and Belgium. Nine Axis planes were shot down.

19TH JUNE.—One Axis supply ship was sunk and two others hit off the Norwegian coast. The Royal Air Force hit two small supply ships and a number of locomotives and barges during a daylight raid over France and Holland.

One German bomber was shot down and three were damaged over the Bay of Biscay.

The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on the Schneider armament works in France.

A German plane was destroyed over England.

20TH JUNE.—According to a naval reporter in the *Daily Express*, 50 U-boats were destroyed in the last two months. This number brought the total destroyed since the beginning of the war to 250.

21ST JUNE.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Luftstuffban Radio factory at Friedrichshaven. Spitfires raided the Poix airfield.

22ND JUNE.—The Royal Air Force bombed Krefeld City (10 miles westward of the Ruhr with a population of 160,000) in a heavy concentrated attack.

American heavy bombers attacked targets in the Ruhr and Belgium.

Bombs were dropped at scattered points over parts of south and south-east England.

23RD JUNE.—The Royal Air Force bombed Mulheim (an important city of German steel industry).

Five enemy escort vessels were sunk in a convoy off the Dutch coast.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

17TH JUNE.—President Kalinin of the U.S.S.R. sent a message to President Roosevelt on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Mutual Aid Agreement between the United States and Russia: "I am profoundly convinced that these ties and military co-operation will grow even stronger thus assuring further successes in our joint struggle and final victory of the U.S.S.R. and the United States and Great Britain over our common enemy."

18TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing a million-ton expansion of the United States Navy's auxiliaries. The Senate passed a 27,637 million dollar naval appropriation Bill.

The War Production Board announced that the United States aircraft production during May "reached the unprecedented figure of nearly 7,200 planes of all types, and the output will be substantially larger in June."

19TH JUNE.—The Navy Department announced the organization of a powerful army and navy amphibious force which may launch the invasion on Hitler's Europe.

Lend-Lease aid to Russia during May totalled 790 million dollars.

21ST JUNE.—The House of Representatives unanimously voted at 71,000 million dollar army supply Bill —the largest single money measure in the history of the Congress.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

17TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force attacked Atetnama and Sinoh on the Mayu peninsula. Indainggyi in Myitha Valley was also attacked.

18TH JUNE.—It was announced that Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell had been appointed Viceroy and Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India.

The Royal Air Force bombed the enemy base at Indainggyi. United States air force bombers attacked enemy barracks and installations at Lashio.

19TH JUNE.—The United States air force smashed rail road yards at Yamethin. Oil tanks were set on fire at Yenangyaung.

23RD JUNE.—Bombers of the United States Air Force attacked enemy installations at Monywa, Burma.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17TH JUNE.—Three enemy ships were sunk in the Aegean Sea. Military objectives, shipping, railway installations and other targets were attacked on the Italian mainland as far as the Gulf of Taranto.

The Algiers Radio commentator said: "The day of Allied invasion is steadily drawing nearer and in France the whole population is making the final preparation for the difficult task of helping the Allies when they land on French soil."

His Majesty the King continued his North African tour and inspected units of the British and United States fleets and merchant navies.

General Giraud and General de Gaulle were present at a meeting of the National Committee of Liberation. General Giraud presided.

18TH JUNE.—Bombers of the Strategic Air force attacked the docks at Naples.

An Italian communiqué announced: ("Enemy air formations attacked localities in Sicily, Calabria and centres of the zone of Vesuvius including Pompeii.

The Algiers Radio broadcast a warning to Italian people that the Allies intended to destroy their factories and communication lines so long as they continued to serve the Axis.

Stating that the Allies had armies at their disposal numbering 13 or 14 million men, the Soviet labour newspaper *Trud* asserted that the United Nations had all the necessary manpower and material to invade the European continent.

His Majesty the King visited Gibraltar.

The Nazis closed the Brenner pass between Germany and Italy.

19TH JUNE.—Martial Law was proclaimed in eight provinces in Italy.

According to the German Radio, from July 1, all Italian men from 18 to 36 and women from 18 to 24 would be called up for labour conscription.

Flying Fortresses attacked Messina in Sicily. In Sardinia, docks and shipping at Olbia were bombed.

20TH JUNE.—American heavy bombers made a daylight attack on Reggio di Calabria.

The Royal Air Force attacked Syracuse in south-east Sicily and railway targets in western Italy.

21ST JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Tunis and inspected the First Army.

The German Radio stated that the Allied fleet was off the Syrian coast.

22ND JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Malta.

Flying Fortresses bombed Naples. American bombers attacked Reggio di Calabria and San Giovanni.

An agreement was reached owing to the intervention of the Allies in the French dispute on compromise over the reorganization of the French forces.

23RD JUNE.—It was revealed that half of Naples Royal arsenal was destroyed as a result of Royal Air Force bombing.

Allied aircraft bombed Salerno, Castelvetras, Mailazzo and Olbia.

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RUSSIA AND FINLAND

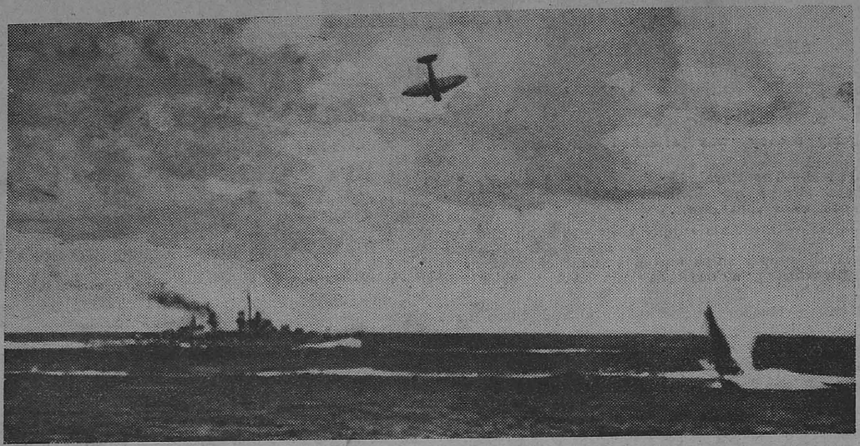
17TH JUNE.—Fighting in the Orel bulge grew in intensity. Russian forces captured an inhabited locality in the area of Mtsensk. The Red Air Force bombed the railway junctions of Unecha, Novozyhkov, Roslavi and Vladislavovka. Many trains were smashed and burnt out.

The Moscow Radio quoted a message from M. Stalin to the Congress of Polish patriots that met in Moscow: "You can rest assured that the Soviet Union will do everything possible to hasten the defeat of the common enemy—Hitlerite Germany—strengthen Soviet-Polish friendship and assist in every way the restoration of a strong and independent Poland."

18TH JUNE.—The Germans suffered heavy losses in the Orel bulge. The Russians massed more men and transport on the Kursk sector. Berlin confirmed that Russian troops were within gunrange of Novorossisk.

19TH JUNE.—A writer in the Moscow *Bolshevik* stated: "Hitler just wants to delay the time of his defeat and is trying to pacify the Germans by reports of bombing of Russian cities."

20TH JUNE.—The Red Air Force raided Briansk.



This remarkable photo taken during the battle of Santa Cruz released by the U. S. Navy Department shows two Japanese aeroplanes hit by United States anti-aircraft fire on their way to a watery grave. Splash and explosion (far right) *shows the first one down, while the second nears the sea* (upper centre). *An American cruiser is in the background.*

21ST JUNE.—Col. Knox, United States Navy Secretary, paying a tribute to the Russians, said: "In two years of bitter fighting, the people of Russia have shown famous courage and rock-like determination unsurpassed in the pages of history."

On the eve of the second anniversary of Germany's attack on Soviet Russia, the Soviet press issued a warning against underestimating the strength Hitler had yet left.

The Germans suffered considerable losses in men and tanks round Orel. Over 2,000 casualties were inflicted on the Germans in unsuccessful counter-attacks north-west of Mtsensk.

The Moscow Radio broadcast a special communiqué on the second anniversary of Hitler's attack on the Soviet Union: "The German losses during the two years of war in killed and prisoners are 6,400,000 men against the Soviet loss of 4,200,000 killed and missing. Germany lost during the same period 56,500 guns, 42,400 tanks and 43,000 aircraft. Soviet losses in war material were 35,000 guns, 30,000 tanks and 23,000 aircraft."

23RD JUNE.—It was reported that Russia was making preparations for large-scale operations around Moscow.

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NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18TH JUNE.—The frontier between Turkey and Syria was reopened.

The Rome Radio said that large British forces were concentrated along the southern frontier of Turkey.

21ST JUNE.—According to the German Radio, 15,000 people were killed by earthquake in the town of Ada Bazar, which lies about 60 miles east of Istanbul in Turkey. Hendel town also was completely destroyed.

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VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18TH JUNE.—The British Labour Party Conference adopted the following resolution: "This conference sends its greetings to those valiant workers and democrats in occupied and enemy countries of Europe who are continuing the underground struggle against Nazism and Fascism and pledges its full support to them in that struggle."

21ST JUNE.—According to the Greek Information Bureau, Italian forces and Greek patriots fought a regular battle lasting 52 hours near Siatista in Macedonia.

The Rome Radio said that there was bitter fighting in northern Montenegro between German, Italian and Bulgarian troops and large forces of rebel troops.

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THE FAR EAST

17TH JUNE.—Six Japanese planes were shot down and four more probably destroyed by American planes in an air battle over Changsha in Central Kiangsi.

Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to Britain, said: "More aeroplanes of all kinds and Burma re-opened—that is what China wants."

Dr. Evatt, Australia's Minister for External Affairs, forecast the speedy collapse of Japan after German defeat. He said that Britain's aid to Australia had helped considerably to hold the Japanese at bay north of Australia.

18TH JUNE.—A Chungking spokesman said that about 40,000 Japanese were killed or wounded in the recent battles of Hupeh and Hunan which lasted 40 days.

The London *Daily Telegraph* wrote: "Japan's confidence has been shaken by the collapse of the Axis forces in Africa. Her own troops have begun to show decline of fighting power and the will to fight. It is time for the offensive, but the Allies would be ill-advised if they expected easy success."

Chinese forces halted the Japanese northward advance in Western Yunnan.

"A very successful harassing raid" on the Pacific Island of Nauru was made by Allied planes.

20TH JUNE.—Allied planes attacked the Vunakanau airfield at Rabaul. Enemy-held villages along the coast to Sio were strafed.

Chinese forces captured four important points in the Yangtse river.

According to the American Office of War Information, Japanese naval and shipping losses up to June 11 were: 161 combat vessels were definitely sunk, including two battleships, seven aircraft carriers, 34 cruisers and 74 destroyers.

According to the Soviet press, Japan was everywhere on the defensive and had gained nothing by her temporary conquests.

21ST JUNE.—Twenty-two Japanese bombers and fighters nearly half the attacking force were destroyed or damaged in a Japanese raid over Port Darwin.

Liberators attacked the Kahili-Buin area and started large fires. There was another big bomber raid on the enemy base of Rabaul in New Britain. Allied aircraft attacked the enemy airfield at Lae and enemy positions at Salamana.

Chinese forces on Tali river in Western Yunnan Province routed a Japanese advance from Teng Chung.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Japanese on the Kungan front on the Yangtse.

22ND JUNE.—Twenty-three Japanese raiders were destroyed over New Guinea.

23RD JUNE.—Col. Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of Production, said: "We shall bring the whole weight of our arms to bear so that this threat of invasion will be crushed in the Far East as the threat of invasion of this island has been crushed here."

In an unsuccessful attack on the Allied lines in the Mubo area, 100 Japanese were killed.

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